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providing quality, compassionate care to everyone, every time

October 1, 2018

**The Honorable Klint Kesto
Michigan House of Representatives
S-888 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909**

Re. House Law and Justice Committee, House Bills 6203-6204

Dear Chairman Kesto:

I apologize that I am not able to be present for the committee hearing on Tuesday, Oct. 2 when House Bills 6203 and 6204 will be considered. On behalf of over 10,000 dedicated caregivers, health care professionals, and volunteers that work at Sparrow Health System, we appreciate the opportunity to share our support for these bills.

Our most significant concern at Sparrow Health System has been the increase of incidents involving violence against caregivers in recent years. While incidents involving violence have always been a concern in the Emergency Department, we are now seeing significant increases in the number of incidents involving violence in other areas of the health system, in addition to the Emergency Department. While there are some key predictors of potentially violent behavior, sometimes these predictors are not recognized prior to a caregiver being injured.

It is not uncommon to have multiple incidents of violence each day in which caregivers are hit, kicked, spat on, and threatened physically by patients and family. Often times, we will have simultaneous incidents of violence happening in multiple areas. We believe that this proposed legislation will have a positive impact on this growing problem.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments in support of House Bills 6203 and 6204.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John A. Shaski".

**John A. Shaski
Government Relations Officer**

CC: Members of the House Law and Justice Committee